

Serial No. 10/773,266

Docket No. 3722/0176P

Reply to Office Action dated November 6, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-2, 4, 7-10, 12-13 and 15 are pending in the application.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1-4 and 6-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over McGuinness (U.S. Patent 6,104,416) in view of Perrin (U.S. Patent 5,872,577). Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

By way of the present Amendment, Applicants have added limitations to independent claims 1, 10 and 13. In particular, a new paragraph has been added to the end of each of the three independent claims. Part of this new paragraph includes the limitations found in claims 3, 11 and 14. However, additional limitations have also been added.

Thus, each of the independent claims describes the first memory section as having a first number of first areas and the second memory section as having a second number of second areas with each of the areas having consecutive storage locations where the first and second numbers are larger than one. The second part of the paragraph describes the first and second areas as comprising a plurality of rows in one of the block units and the first areas and the second areas in the first memory section and the second memory section respectively are in interlaced arrangement. Applicants submit that these limitations are not taught by the two references and would not be obvious thereover.

Serial No. 10/773,266

Docket No. 3722/0176P

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In regard to the limitations previously found in claim 3, the Examiner states that McGuinness teaches a first memory section 532 having a first number of first areas (words) and a second memory section 534 with a second number of second areas (words). However, as described at col. 11, ln. 55 to col. 12, ln. 4, the words in memory sections 532 and 534 include only one row of a tile of the picture 520 which is different from the statement in claim 1 that each of the first and second areas comprises a plurality of rows of one of the block units. Further, the arrangement of the words in McGuinness are consecutive in each memory section. That is, the words in memory section 532 are consecutive and those in the memory section 534 which follows the memory section 532 are consecutive. In amended claim 1, the first areas and the second areas are in interlaced arrangement. This is described on page 13 of the present application. Applicants submit that McGuinness does not teach or suggest the limitations present in the new final paragraph added to each of the independent claims.

Furthermore, even though the Examiner has stated that Perrin discloses at least one memory page having a first memory section and a second memory section, it does not teach or suggest the first and second areas having consecutive storage locations with each of the first and second numbers being larger than one. According to the teachings of Perrin, the address of the memory section will be redistributed when the size of the memory is changed. In the present invention since the first and second memory sections have first and second areas, the addressing allocation of the original first and second areas can be kept with only the adjustment of the number of the first and second areas when the size of the memory is changed. Applicants submit that it is not possible to modify the teachings of McGuinness with the teachings of Perrin since it would change the principles of operation of the device. Accordingly, Applicants submit that

Serial No. 10/773,266

Docket No. 3722/0176P

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amended claim 1, as well as amended claims 10 and 13, are not obvious over the combination of McGuinness and Perrin. For these reasons, independent claims 1, 10 and 13 are considered to be allowable.

Dependent claims 2, 4, 7-9, 12 and 15 are likewise allowable based on their dependency from these allowable independent claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. 10/773,266

Docket No. 3722/0176P

Reply to Office Action dated November 6, 2007

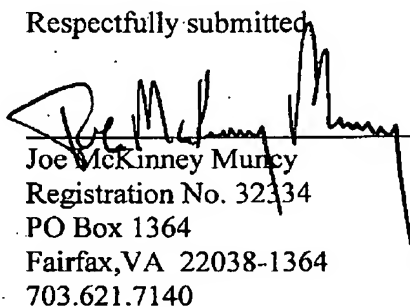
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Deposit Account Authorization

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-3828 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: March 6, 2008